

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 227115 TOSEC 270070

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE DAR ES SALAAM LUSAKA KINSHASA

PRETORIA LONDON PARIS HELSINKI ADDIS ABABA GABORONE

KADUNA IBADAN MAPUTO USUN NEW YORK FROM LAGOS DTD 14 SEPT 1976

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 10529

DAR ES SALAAM FOR SCHAUFELLE

E.O. 11652: X-GDS-1

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MACBRIDE IS BAD NEWS

1. UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE KURT JANSSON, FINNISH NATIONAL, ASKED TO COME TO RESIDENCE TO REPORT "IN STRICT CONFIDENCE" HIS GRAVE CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE EFFECT OF UNHIGH COMMISSIONER FOR NAMIBIA MACBRIDE'S RECENT VISIT TO LAGOS (LAGOS 10323). JANSSON HAS IMPRESSED ME PREVIOUSLY AS AN ABLE AND DEVOTED SENIOR INTERNATIONAL

CIVIL SERVANT OF UNQUESTIONABLE DISCRETION AND RECITUDE. HE SAID I WOULD BE THE ONLY PERSON WITH WHOM HE WOULD SPEAK ON THIS SUBJECT, AND THAT HE WOULD SAY THESE THINGS TO NEW YORK "ONLY IF WALDHEIM ASKS ME SPECIFICALLY TO CONFIRM THAT THIS IS WHAT MACBRIDE SAID IN LAGOS." JANSSON STRESSED HIS DESIRE REMAIN ANONYMOUS, SAYING THAT THIS WAS ONE OF THE RARE TIMES IN HIS UN CAREER WHEN HE FELT HE HAD TO BE "POLITICALLY INVOLVED." EMBASSY REQUESTS DEPARTMENT
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ACCORDINGLY PROTECT HIM AS SOURCE.

2. ACCORDING TO JANSSON, MACBRIDE'S BEHAVIOR DURING HIS RECENT BRIEF VISIT TO NIGERIA CONVINCED JANSSON THAT MACBRIDE REPRESENTS A THREAT TO THE NON-VIOLENT EVOLUTION OF AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA AND TO NIGERIAN AND OTHER AFRICAN ATTITUDES CONCERNING SECRETARY KISSINGER'S CURRENT DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

3. DURING A LUNCHEON GIVEN IN HIS HONOR BY JANSSON, MACBRIDE HELD FORTH AT LENGTH ON AMERICAN "PERFIDY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA." MACBRIDE PROCLAIMED THAT US/AFRICAN POLICY GENERALLY AND THE SECRETARY'S CURRENT SOUTHERN AFRICAN INITIATIVE WAS MOTIVATED BY DESIRE TO PROTECT

VESTED US ECONOMIC INTERESTS. AS FOR NAMIBIA, MACBRIDE CHARGED THAT THE US INTENDS "DOING THE SAME THING THEY DID IN VIET-NAM --SET UP A PUPPET REGIME RUN BY CIA AGENTS WHO WILL INSERT THEMSELVES IN THE GUISE OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ADVISERS."

4. AFTER THE LUNCHEON, JANSSON DREW MACBRIDE ASIDE AND ASKED HIM TO COOL IT, SUGGESTING THAT HIS REMARKS HAD BEEN INAPPROPRIATE FOR A LUNCHEON GATHERING. MACBRIDE INSISTED ON HIS POINTS, SAYING HE HAD "PROOF" OF THE US "SCHEME" FOR NAMIBIA. HE THEN DREW FROM HIS POCKET AN UNSIGNED TWO-PAGE "MEMORANDUM" WHICH HE SAID EXPLAINED THE AMERICAN

PLAN. JANSSON REFUSED TO READ IT THROUGH BUT SAW SIX NAMES LISTED AS ALLEGED CIA EMPLOYEES WHO WOULD PENETRATE NAMIBIA POSING AS ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE EXPERTS. JANSSON RECALLS TWO OF THESE NAMES AS JOHNSON AND DAVIS.

5. JANSSON WAS SHOCKED WHEN MACBRIDE, IN HIS SUBSEQUENT MEETING WITH MEA OFFICIALS (PERMSEC SANUSI HANDLED THE MEETING IN GARBA'S ABSENCE; OTHERS ATTENDING WERE MUSA, OBEBE AND ONE OTHER), GAVE THE MEMORANDUM TO SANUSI. IN HIS LATER MEETING WITH OBASANJO, MACBRIDE WENT OVER THE SAME GROUND, THIS TIME REFERRING TO "KISSINGER'S DESIRE TO ESTABLISH A QUISLING GOVERNMENT" IN NAMIBIA AND URGING OBASANJO NOT TO BE TAKEN IN BY IT. MACBRIDE TOLD OBASANJO THAT THE COMPELLING MOTIVE BEHIND US POLICY IN NAMIBIA WAS PROTECTION OF US, BRITISH, AND SOUTH AFRICAN MINERALS EXPLOITATION INTERESTS. ACCORDING TO JANSSON, OBASANJO RESPONDED WITH THE STATEMENT, "THIS BEARS OUT OTHER INFORMATION WE HAVE -- THIS IS ONE OF THE REASONS WHY WE HAVE NOT WANTED KISSINGER IN NIGERIA." (COMMENT: JANSSON CONFIDENTIAL

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TOLD ME HE WONDERED WHETHER OBASANJO MEANT THAT THIS WAS WHY THE SECRETARY'S PROPOSED VISIT IN MAY FELL THROUGH OR WHETHER HE MEANT THAT A VISIT WAS STILL UNWELCOME.)

6. JANSSON SAYS WALDHEIM IS FRIGHTENED BY MACBRIDE AND HIS EXTREMIST VIEWS BUT HASN'T DARED CLAMP DOWN ON HIM BECAUSE IT WOULD HURT HIS SYG REELECTION CHANCES. WALDHEIM DOESN'T EVEN KNOW WHERE MACBRIDE IS

HALF THE TIME -- MACBRIDE LEFT LAGOS FOR ANGOLA AND BRAZZAVILLE BUT I'M THE ONE WALDHEIM ASKS RATHER THAN MACBRIDE HIMSELF." MACBRIDE'S ASSIGNMENT ENDS THIS YEAR. JANSSON SAYS MACBRIDE IS PUSHING FOR AHTISSARI (SPELLING?), FINNISH AMBASSADOR TO TANZANIA AND MOZAMBIQUE, TO SUCCEED HIM. MACBRIDE ASKED OBASANJO FOR NIGERIA'S SUPPORT OF AHTISSARI. OBASANJO WAS NON-COMMITTAL. JANSSON KNOWS AHTISSARI WELL AND SAYS HE IS "NOT A COMMUNIST, AND HE IMPRESSES PEOPLE VERY WELL." BUT JANSSON SAYS IF AHTISSARI SHARES MACBRIDE'S VIEWS ON NAMIBIA, HIS APPOINTMENT WOULD BE A GRAVE DISSERVICE TO NAMIBIA'S FUTURE AND TO THE UN SYSTEM.

7. THERE ARE 49 NAMIBIAN STUDENTS CURRENTLY ATTENDING SECONDARY SCHOOL IN NIGERIA UNDER UN AUSPICES. JANSSON IS ARRANGING PLACEMENTS FOR SOME SIXTY ADDITIONAL STUDENTS. THEY ARE SELECTED BY SWAPO.

8. USUN MAY WISH PASS TO COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA CAPITALS.
EASUM UNQTE ROBINSON

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